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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY USSR
SUBJECT German PW Military Formations in Russia
ORIGIN 25X1
DATE: 25X1
INFO.
DIST. 25X1
PAGES 25X1
SUPPLEMENT

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1. In early March 1947, approximately 3,000 German PWs confined at Batum began the construction of barracks to accommodate 15,000 persons at a location south of the town. These barracks were occupied in late May by Soviet infantry troops equipped with light machine guns and multiple rocket launchers, plus 2,500 T-34 tanks. Accompanying them was a unit composed of German PWs, former mountain infantrymen, who apparently remained at Batum. The Russians had participated in maneuvers in the Akhaltsikh area east of Batum.
2. In early 1947, some 14,000 German EM and officer volunteers were stationed at a German-administered camp fifty kilometers south of Poltava. Most of the men were former parachutists and SS troops who wore their old uniforms. The commander was Colonel General Helimann; the only Russian assisting him was a liaison officer.
3. In May 1947, the Poltava camp received some conscripted German physicians, who were attached to the unit. The chief doctor was a Dr. Schulz, formerly of Rostock.
4. The Poltava unit, which drew unlimited rations, was scheduled to be shipped to Odessa in mid-June. It was equipped with automatic pistols, ten batteries of 88 mm guns, and ten batteries of 150 mm AA guns. Work and training directives were issued from Moscow and orders were signed by General von Paulus. The latter is said to have drawn up a defense plan for Southern Russia involving the use of German troops.
5. Another German-administered camp, under the command of Colonel Keller, is located near Leninakan, southwest of Tiflis. The 4,000 PWs wear their old uniforms, draw abundant rations, receive training, and are equipped with automatic pistols.

Batum: 41°40'N, 41°35'E, Georgia
Poltava: 49°36'N, 34°35'E, Ukraine
Leninakan: 40°45'N, 43°50'E, Armenia

Document No. 600
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Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C
DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77 25X1
Auth: DDA REG. 77717
Date: 11/2/98 By

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